



*A Chapter of the American Planning Association*

March 15, 2006

Representative John Stakoe  
Chair, House Local Government and Urban Policy Committee

To the Honorable Representative Stakoe and members of the House Local Government and Urban Policy Committee:

I am writing to support House Bills 5565, 5566 and 5567, to expressively allow in the State's Township, County and City/Village Zoning Acts the authority to provide for mixed use zoning locally. There is disagreement currently about whether this authority is currently allowed, and passage of this bill would clarify the issue.

It should be noted that Representative Elsenheimer's Zoning Act, which was passed by Senator Birkholz's Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee on Tuesday, March 14, 2006, seeks to unify the State's three zoning enabling acts (Townships, Counties, and City/Villages) into a single act, and we are hopeful that the Governor will sign this bill within the month. It will be necessary to combine HB's 5565, 5566, and 5567 into a bill which is consistent with Representative Elsenheimer's HB 4398.

The Michigan Association of Planning applauds the Michigan Legislature for their continued commitment to improving Michigan's planning and zoning laws, which can result in development patterns which contribute to our state's economic health and prosperity.

I offer the technical and professional expertise of the Michigan Association of Planning's Law Committee to review and provide comment on any subsequent changes to these bills.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Brown".

Andrea Brown, AICP  
Executive Director

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